SHEAFFER'S HANDBOOK FOR SECRETARIES

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One word, two words, or a hyphen?

How often are you puzzled as to whether a particular expression is to be written as a single word, as two or more separate words, or with a hyphen. If you are at all like the writer, you are probably puzzled more frequently than you would care to admit.

The list of such "puzzlers" here presented will resolve most of your doubts as to their status—single (solid), separated (two or more individual words) or joined (hyphenated). For infrequent words not listed here, consult a good dictionary. When two or more spellings are permissible, only the preferred form is given.

		·	
Anglo-Saxon background	broad-minded broadside	clear-sighted	daughter-in-law
backlog	brokenhearted	closefisted	daybook
bas-relief	brother-in-law	close-hauled	daybreak
beforehand		close up (verb form)	day coach
	bull's-eye	close up (adverb)	daydream
biannual	businesslike	close-up (noun and	day letter
bicentennial	businessman	adj.)	daylight
billhead	busybody	coal gas	daytime
bloodhound	buttonhole	coal mine	deadfall
blood money	by-election	coal tar	deadhead
bluebird	bylaw	coalyard	deadline
bluefish	by-line	coast guard	deadlock
blue jay	bypass	coastwise	deaf-mute
blue laws	byplay	coauthor	death mask
blue moon	by-product	codefendant	death's-head
boat hook	byroad	cold cream	death warrant
boatswain	bystander	color-blind	deathwatch
bodyguard	byway	co-operate	de facto
bold-faced	byword	co-ordinate	dewdrop '
bondholder	carryall	copyright	dew point
bond servant	carry over (verb form)	coup d'état	dog days
bondsman	carry-over (noun)	courthouse	dogfight
bookbinder	carte blanche	court-martial	doghouse
bookcase	chain gang	courtyard	downhearted
book end	chain mail	co-worker	downstairs
bookkeeper	chainwork	crossbar	draw back (verb form)
bookkeeping	chicken pox	crossbow	drawback (noun)
bookshop	chock-full	cross-examine	due bill
bookstore	chophouse	cross-question	dumbbell
bookworm	chopstick	cross reference (noun)	dumb-waiter
bowknot	chop suey	cross-reference (verb)	earwax
box coat	clear-cut	cut-rate	easygoing
hoy bito	alaan annat		

dark horse

endless

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.S.A.

box kite

clear-eyed

end man endmost en route et cetera, but etc. (*abbr*.) and etceteras (plural) eyewitness facecloth face-harden fainthearted fair-minded fair-spoken fairway fancy-free fancywork faraway farfetched far-off farseeing farsighted farthermost father-in-law feeble-minded field day field glass fieldpiece firearm firebox fire-eater fireman fireplace fireproof fireside firetrap fire wall fireworks first-born first-class (adj. & adv.) firsthand first-rate first water flat-footed football foot-candle foothold footlights foot-loose footnote footprint footstep

footwork forecast foreman forenoon forerunner foresight foretell foreword forget-me-not fountainhead fourscore frame-up freehand fresh-water furthermost gangplank gashouse gaslight gas mask gas station gasworks goldfish goldsmith good-by good-tempered goose flesh gooseherd great gross green-eyed greengrocer greenroom ground crew ground hog groundwork gunman gunpowder gun room gunshot habeas corpus hack saw hairdresser halfback half-breed half brother halfhearted half-mast half-moon half note halfpenny half step

half title half-truth halfway handle bar handmade hand-to-mouth handwriting handy man hardware hay fever headpiece headquarters hearsay heartsick hereinafter hereinbefore highborn high-brow high-flown highhanded high-minded high-pressure highroad high school high sea high-sounding high-spirited high-strung high-tension high-test high-toned homemade home rule homesick horseflesh horsefly horse opera horseplay horsepower horse-radish horseshoe horsewhip housekeeper housewife hundredweight hurdy-gurdy hurly-burly ice bag iceberg iceboat

icebox ice cream iceman ice plant ill-bred ill-favored ill-starred ill-tempered ill-treat inasmuch as Indo-Chinese ironclad ironmaster ironware jack-o'-lantern jack pot jack rabbit iackstraw juryman keynote kneecap knee-deep knee-high knickknack ladybird ladybug lady-killer ladylike lady's maid lady's-slipper landing craft landing field landing strip landlady landlord landlubber landowner land-poor lap dog law-abiding lawgiver lawmaker lawsuit left-handed letter box letter carrier lettergram letterhead life belt lifeboat

life buoy lifesaver lifesaving lifetime light-fingered lighthearted lighthouse lightweight locksmith lock step lock stitch lockup longhand long-suffering long-winded looking glass loophole lowbred low-brow mainstay major general make-believe makeshift make-up manhood man-hour man-of-war manservant manslaughter Mardi gras market place mass meeting master-at-arms masterpiece masterwork matchmaker match play matchwood matter-of-fact (adj.) noncommital merry-andrew merry-go-round merrymaking middle-aged middleman milkmaid milkman milk punch milk shake

milkweed

mind reader mind reading money-making money order moonbeam moon-blind moonlight moonstone moon-struck morning-glory moth-eaten mother-in-law mother-of-pearl mouthpiece mowing machine muscle-bound namby-pamby narrow-minded needle point (noun) needle-point (*adj*.) needlework ne'er-do-well nevertheless newborn newcomer New Deal newfangled new-fashioned newsstand new year (noun) new-year (adj.) nickname nightgown night letter nightlong nightmare night owl nighttime matter of fact (noun) noncommissioned non compos mentis non-co-operation nonsupport nose bag nosebleed nose dive (noun) nose-dive (verb) nosegay notebook note paper

noteworthy nowhere nutshell offhand officeholder offset oil cake oilcloth oil field oil painting oilskin oil well old-fashioned old-timer old-world one-horse one-sided one-step open-and-shut open-eyed openhanded openhearted open house (noun) open-house (adj.) openmouthed openwork outdoor out-of-door out of the way (verb form) output outwit over-all (adj.) overall (noun and adv.) pipeline overproduction panic-stricken paperback paper cutter paper knife paperweight paper work paratrooper parcel post parlor car passbook passer-by paymaster payroll peacemaker peace offering

peace pipe peahen pea jacket penknife penman penmanship pen name pennyweight penny-wise pennyworth per annum per capita per cent percentage per diem piece goods piecemeal piecework pigeonhole pigeon-toed pince-nez Ping-pong pinhead pinhole pin money (noun) pin-money (adj.) pin-up pin wheel or pinwheel (noun) out-of-the-way (adj.) pin-wheel or pinwheel (adj.) pinwheel (verb) pipe dream pipe organ playground playing card play off (verb) play-off (noun) plaything playtime playwright plowman plowshare plug-ugly pocketbook pocketknife pocket money pocket veto point-blank

polecat pole vault policeman policyholder polka dot poll tax postage post card postdate postgraduate posthaste postman postmark postmaster postmeridian post-mortem post-obit postpaid postpone postscript potluck pound-foolish pre-eminence pre-eminent pre-empt pre-emptory prepaid prepay prima donna prima-facie (adj.) proofreader pro rata prorate pug nose pug-nosed pushball push button. (noun) push-button (adj.) pushcart push over (verb form) pushover push-pull quarterback quarter-deck quartermaster question mark (noun) question-mark (verb) quick-fire (adj.) quicklime quicksand

quicksilver quick-witted quitclaim racecourse race horse race track raincoat rainfall rain water rake-off ready-make Red Cross redhead red heat red herring red lead (noun) red-lead (verb) red-letter (adj.) re-elect re-enact re-enlist re-examination reoccupy reorganization right-handed right of way rocking chair roll call (noun) roll-call roller skate (noun) roller-skate (verb) rolling mill rolling pin roof garden roommate rose fever rose window round about (adv.) roundabout (noun & self-esteem adj.) round-shouldered runaway run down (verb form) run-down (adj.) runner-up runway safe-conduct safeguard safekeeping safety match

safety pin safety valve sandbag sandblast sand hog sandman sandpaper sandwich schoolbook school board schoolhouse schoolmaster schoolmate schoolroom schoolteacher schoolvard screw driver seacoast sea fight sea food seafowl seagoing sea gull sea horse sea level sealing wax sealskin seaman seaport searchlight search warrant seashore seasick seaside seaway self-confidence self-control self-defense self-government selfish self-made selfsame self-starter semimonthly send off (verb form) send-off (noun) sharpshooter sharp-sighted sheep dog

sheepskin shorthanded short-lived shortsighted short-winded shoulder blade shower bath sidetrack sight-seeing singlehanded single-minded singsong sinking fund sister-in-law sketchbook sky blue (noun) sky-blue (adj.) skylark skylight sky line skyrocket skyscraper skyward, or skywards sky wave sledge hammer (noun) sledge-hammer (verb) sleeping car slide rule snapshot snare drum snowball snow-blind snowbound snowfall snowflake snowplow snowshoe snowstorm snub-nosed soapbox soap opera soapsuds sober-minded softhearted son-in-law speed limit square dance squarehead square root

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stand by (verb form) stand-by (noun & adj.) stand off (verb form) standoff (noun & adj.) standpoint stand still (verb form) standstill (noun & adj.) starboard starfish starlight star shell star-spangled steamboat steam boiler steamcar steam engine steam fitter steam roller (noun) steam-roller (adj. & verb) steamship steam table stockholder stock-still stomach-ache stonecutter stopgap stop watch straightforward strait jacket stronghold strong-minded sugar beet sugar cane sugar-coat sugar maple sugarplum sure-footed sweetbread sweet corn sweetheart sweetmeat sweet pea sweetshop tablecloth table cover tablespoon tablespoonful (s)

tableware tailpiece tail spin tailstock take off (verb form) take-off (noun & adj.) tax-exempt taxpayer tear sheet teaspoonful (s) tea wagon terra cotta (noun) terra-cotta (adj.) test tube textbook thick-skinned thin-skinned threefold three-ply threescore tie-up time-honored timekeeper timepiece timetable toothache toothbrush toothpick topcoat topflight top hat topmost topsoil topsy-turvy torchlight tossup touchdown touchstone townsfolk township townspeople trade in (verb form) trade-in (noun & adj.) trade-mark trade name trade school tradesman trade wind trap door treadmill

treasure-trove trustworthy try square tug of war tuning fork turnover turnpike turnstile turntable turtledove tutti-frutti type founder type metal typescript typesetter ultramarine ultraviolet un-American uncalled-for vice-president vice versa vineyard vis-à-vis walkout walk-up wallflower wardrobe wardroom warehouse washcloth washstand wastebasket watchcase watch chain watchdog watchmaker watchman water color (noun) water-color (adj.) yearbook waterfall waterfront water gap water level waterlogged water main watermark watermellon water meter

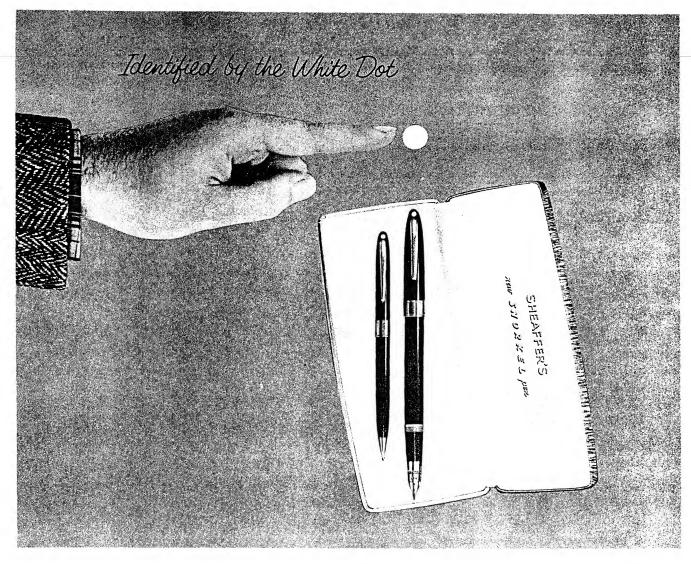
water polo

water power (noun)

water-power (adj.) waterproof waterspout watertight water vapor waterway weatherproof weekday weekend wellborn well-read white book white-collar white feather whitefish white-hot white lead white paper whitewash widespread windshield wirepulling wiseacre withhold wood pulp woodshed woodwork workingman workroom worktable work week worldly-wise world-wide worn-out wristband wrist pin wrist watch write-up

ın) erb)

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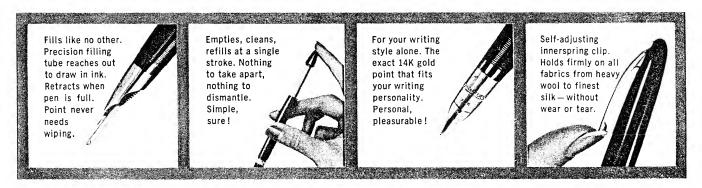
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Similar Words Distinguished

There are many words that are similar or identical in sound but different in meaning. The choice of the wrong word on the part of the secretary may lead to embarrassing or serious consequences. For example, it would prove extremely embarrassing to refer to a *correspondent* (one with whom correspondence is carried on by letter) as a *corespondent* (a party in a divorce suit). A list of such confusing words, together with appropriate distinctive remarks, follows:

accede to comply with attendance presence exceed to surpass attendants followers; escorts to take accept aught anything to exclude except ought should admittance access bail set free surplus excess bale a package ad advertisement base foundation; mean add to put with bass lower notes in adapt to adjust music; a fish adept proficient berry a small fruit to choose adopt bury entomb, conceal addition something added berth bed edition a printing birth beginning adjoin to be next to billed charged adjourn suspend build to construct adverse opposed to board a piece of wood; averse disinclined a group; meals advice information bored wearied: advise to recommend penetrated affect to influence born brought into life carried effect to fulfill, to bring borne about: the brake that which slows result down an object allowed permitted break an opening, aloud audibly a thicket: to refer to allude shatter elude escape breach infraction all ready all prepared breech rear previously already breadth width altar part of a church of air breath alter to change bridal wedding area surface bridle harness aria a melody calendar for dates a going up, rising ascent machine calender assent consent assistance help cannon gun assistants those who help canon rule

	canvas	cloth		1. 1. 4.4.
	canvass	to 'solicit		lands of his
	capital		·	deceased wife
	capitol	chief city, property building	curtsy	a gesture of respect
	carat	0	creak	a sound
		a unit of weight	creek	a watercourse
	caret	sign of insertion	currant	a berry
	carrot	vegetable	current	prevailing
	carton	box	cymbals	musical instrument
	cartoon	picture	symbols	signs
	cast	throw	dammed	blocked
	caste	social class	damned	cursed
	cede	to give up	defer	to put off
	seed	that from which	differ	to disagree
		anything springs	depositary	receiver of deposits
	ceiling	top of a room	depository	a place where
	sealing	closing	• • •	something is
	censer	vessel for incense		deposited
	censor	examiner	depravation	corruption
	cereal	any grain food	deprivation	loss
	serial .	arranged in a series	desert	leave; dry country
	cession	a yielding	dessert	food served at the
	session	the sitting of a	•	close of a meal
		court, a meeting	device	a scheme or
	chord	musical term		contrivance
	cord	string	devise	to plan, bequeath
	cite	quote	dew	moisture
	sight	a view	due	owed or owing
	site	a place, location	die	cease living; a tool
	coarse	rough	dye	to change the color
	course	way		of; that which
	coma	an unconscious		changes the color
		state	discreet	prudent
	comma	a mark of punc-	discrete	separate
		tuation	dual	double
	complement	full quantity	duel	a fight with swords
	compliment	flatter		or pistols
	confidant	bosom friend	dyeing	changing the color
	confident	sure		of
	coolie	laborer (Asia)	dying	near death
	cooly	coldly	emigrate	to go away from
	coulee	trenchlike valley	U	a country
	corespondent	party in a divorce	immigrate	to come into a
		suit		country
		writer of letters	eminent	well known;
	council	a group of men		prominent
	counsel	an attorney;	imminent	threatening;
•		advice		impending
	courtesy	a favor; politeness	envelop	to cover; to wrap
	curtesy	a husband's life	envelope	a wrapper for a
		interest in the	-	letter

10 -

fair fare faze phase feet feat fiancé fiancée flour flower forth fourth gamble gambol hear here hole whole holy holey holly whollv human humane hyperbola hyperbole incidence incidents incite insight indict indite instance instants intense intents interstate intrastate its it's japan Japan lead led

an exhibit; comely cost of travel; food to disturb a state of development plural of foot act of skill masculine feminine finely ground meal a blossom forward next after third to bet to play to listen to in this place an opening not broken or cut up sacred full of holes a tree entirely pertaining to mankind kindly curve exaggeration range of occurrence accidental happenings to arouse understanding charge with crime write an example moments acute, strong aims between states within one state possessive form of it contraction of it is varnish a country in Asia a metal guided

lean lien leased least lessen lesson levee levy lie lye lightening lightning linage lineage loan lone loath loathe loose lose mackintosh McIntosh mail male mantel mantle marshal martial material materièl meat meet medal meddle metal mettle might mite miner minor missed mist moral morale muscle mussel

thin claim rented smallest decrease an exercise to be studied embankment tax falsehood a strong alkaline solution making lighter flash in the sky number of lines family descent what one borrows or lends without company reluctant detest not bound: free mislay or forfeit something raincoat kind of apple correspondence masculine shelf cloak an officer warlike substance equipment flesh to join a badge to interfere a mineral courage, spirit force a tiny particle mine worker person under age failed to do haze virtuous spirit part of the body a seafood

		Sec. 1		
	naught	nothing	profit	gain
	nought	the number, zero	prophet	one who forecasts
	one	a single thing		future events
	won	past tense of <i>win</i>	rain	water falling in
	ordinance	a local law		drops
	ordnance	arms, munitions	reign	time during which
	overdo	to do too much		a sovereign rules
	overdue	past due	rein	strap of a horse's
	packed	loaded, crammed		bridle
•	pact	an agreement	raise	to lift
	pail	a bucket	rays	beams of light
	pale	light colored	raze	to lay level with
	pair	two of a kind		the ground
	pare	to peel	rap	to knock
	pear	a fruit	wrap	to enclose; an
	pane	window glass	-	outer garment
	pain	agony, suffering	read	to go over and
	passed	moved along;		gather the
	-	transferred.		meaning of
	past	time gone by	reed	a plant; a musical
	peace	freedom from war		instrument
	piece	a fragment	residence	a dwelling place
	pedal	a lever for the foot	residents	those living in a
	peddle	to sell from place		place
	•	to place	right	correct
	peer	a nobleman	rite	a ceremony
	pier	a wharf	write	to form letters or
	persecute	to oppress		words on paper
	prosecute-	to sue	role	a part (in a play,
	personal	private		etc.); function
	personnel	the staff	roll	a list
	plain	prairie land	rote	repetition
	plane	a tool; a flat		did write
	plane	surface	wrote	
	p 10000	to be agreeable	root	underground part
	please	-		of a plant; to im-
	pleas	appeals, pleadings		plant firmly
		(plural of plea)	rout	confused flight; to
	pray	to say prayers,		defeat utterly
		to beg	route	the way to be
	prey	a victim		traveled
	precedence	priority	en route	on or along the
	precedents	established rules,		way
		usage	sail	canvas for sailing
	presence	being present		a boat
	presents	gifts	sale	the act of selling,
	principal	head of a school;		disposal of
	L L	the original sum		property
	principle	a rule, a general	scene	a landscape
	Principic	truth	seen	noticed by the eye

scent send sent seam seem shear sheer sleight slight sole soul stationary stationery statue stature statute steal steel straight strait suit

suite

sweet

superintendents supervisors their there they're for that thing

are

consequently

therefor therefore

to dispatch did send a joining to appear cut thin; steep dexterity slender only; bottom the immortal spirit fixed paper a carved figure height, growth a law to take unlawfully metal direct narrow a legal action; clothing; to please things in a connected set having an agreeable taste; pleasing superintendence management belong to them in that place contraction of they

odor

threw through too two undo undue vain vane vein vice vise waive wave waiver waver waist waste weak week weather whether weighed

wade

past tense of throw because of; by way of also; more than enough one and one to open; to render ineffective improper; excessive proud a weathercock a blood vessel wickedness a clamp to give up a billow; a gesture; to swing back and forth relinquishment of a right hesitate part of the body; a garment needless destruction feeble 7 davs state of the atmosphere; to come through safely if, either determined the heaviness of; tested to walk through water, mud; etc.

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Identical City Names

You must be careful not to assume that because Buffalo, for example, is such a large and well-known city that there is but one city bearing that name and that it is located in the state of New York. There are in fact 18 cities with the identical name. Do you know that there are 16 cities bearing the name Bridgeport? Always check to be sure that you have the correct state before addressing a letter or package, for there are many names of large cities that are duplicated many times in other states. A list of some of these well-known cities follows:

	ies Duplicated Other States	CITY TIMES DU IN OTHER	UPLICATED R STATES
Boston (Massachuset	/	Denver (Colorado)	10
Bridgeport (Connecti	cut) 15	Hartford (Connecticut)	15
Buffalo (New York)	17	Newark (New Jersey)	11
Cleveland (Ohio)	20	Portland (Oregon)	14
Dayton (Ohio)	18	Springfield (Massachusetts)	22

Geographical Homonyms

All of us are acquainted with the group of words in our language referred to as *homonyms*, words that sound alike but that are spelled differently. A number of cities are included in this group, and we shall refer to them as *geographical homonyms*. A list of the more commonly occurring geographical homonyms is presented below. Included in this list are a few pairs of cities that are not true homonyms but they are words with spellings so similar that they are sometimes confused.

Allegany, New York Alleghany, California Allegheny, Pennsylvania Asheville, North Carolina Ashville, Ohio Brookline, Massachusetts Brooklyn, New York Charleston, South Carolina Charles Town, West Virginia Charlestown; Massachusetts, West Virginia Dunmor, Kentucky Dunmore, West Virginia Edinburg, Texas Edinburgh, Scotland

Gardiner, Maine Gardner, Massachusetts Gary, Indiana Geary, Oklahoma Gerry, New York Johnston, Rhode Island Johnstown; New York, Pennsylvania Kearney, Nebraska Kearny, New Jersey Lewiston; Idaho, Maine Lewistown; Montana, Pennsylvania Morganton, North Carolina Morgantown, West Virginia Muncie, Indiana

Muncy, Pennsylvania Newberry, South Carolina Newbury, Vermont Paterson, New Jersey Patterson, California Pitsburg, Ohio Pittsburg; California, Kansas Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Reading, Pennsylvania

Redding, California Savanna, Illinois Savannah, Georgia Stamford, Connecticut Stanford, Kentucky West Chester, Pennsylvania Westchester County, New York Wooster, Ohio Worcester, Massachusetts

Spellings of the Names of Foreign Cities and Countries

Because the names of foreign cities and countries are frequently spelled differently from their American equivalents, the following list of both spellings should prove helpful:

Амекісан Antwerp, Belgium

Athens, Greece Brussels, Belgium

Chile Florence, Italy Geneva, Switzerland

Hague, The; Holland Havana, Cuba Lisbon, Portugal Moscow, Soviet Union Prague, Czechoslovakia, or Czecko-Slovakia Rome, Italy Romania, also Roumania and Rumania Venice, Italy Vienna, Austria Warsaw, Poland FOREIGN Antwerpen, België (Flemish) Anvers, Belgique (French) Athínai, Ellas (Greek) Brussel, Belgie (Flemish) Bruxelles, Belgique (French) Chili (Spanish, French, Italian) Firenze, Italia (Italian) Genève, Suisse (French) Genf, Schweiz (German) 's Gravenhage, Nederland (Dutch) La Habana, Cuba (Spanish) Lisboa, Portugal (Portuguese) Moskva, U.S.S.R. (Russian)

Praha, Czeckoslovensko (Czech) Roma, Italia (Italian)

România (Romanian) Venezia, Italia (Italian) Wien, Österreich (German) Warszawa, Polska (Polish)

In recent years the names of several foreign cities have been permanently changed. A few such changes are given here:

FORMER NAME Christiania, Norway Constantinople, Turkey Peking, China Pernambuco, Brazil Porto Rico Queenstown, Irish Free State St. Petersburg, Russia

PRESENT NAME Oslo Istanbul Peiping Recife Puerto Rico Cóbh, Ireland (Eire) Leningrad, U.S.S.R.

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The Long and the Short of It

Or

Abbreviations Frequently Used in Business Offices

In business letters abbreviations should be used seldom, if ever. Since they do occur fairly frequently in tabulations, footnotes, statistical matter, routine office papers, technical work, and scientific material, it is important for the competent secretary to know their correct forms. With this in mind, the following list of commonly-used abbreviations will be found helpful.

Note that some abbreviations are capitalized and others are not, and that some have alternate forms. Note, too, that some contain periods and some do not. Be careful to observe the capitalization and punctuation shown.

- ABC-American Broadcasting Company
- A.C., a.c., a-c-alternating current
- ack., ackgt. acknowledgment
- A.D.-anno Domini (in the year of our Lord)
- ad val., adv., a.v., a/v-ad valorem (according to the value)

AEC-Atomic Energy Commission

- AFL-CIO-American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (now one organization)
- a.m. ante meridiem (before noon)
- A.M.A.-American Medical Association
- ans. answer; answered
- A.S.C.A.P., ASCAP-American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers

att. – attached; attorney

Attn., Atten. – Attention

atty. - attorney

- B.B.A.-Bachelor of Business Administration
- BBC-British Broadcasting Corporation
- B/E, b.e. bill of exchange
- B/F, b.f., brt. fwd. brought forward
- B.I.S. Bank for International Settlements

- B/L, b/l, b.l.-bill of lading
- bldg., blg.-building
- blvd. boulevard
- b.o.-buyer's option; back order; bad order; branch office
- B.T.U., B.t.u., Btu British thermal unit

bul., bull.-bulletin

- canc., can. canceled; cancellation
- cap.-capital; capitalize; capacity
- cat. catalogue
- CBS-Columbia Broadcasting System
- cc-carbon copy
- cc. chapters; cubic centimeter(s)

c.c., cc. - cubic centimeter(s) - (now more often cm³)

- CCC-Commodity Credit Corporation
- C.H. Clearing House
- c.i.f.-cost, insurance, and freight
- C.O.D., c.o.d.-collect (or cash) on delivery
- cont.-contract; containing; contents; continent; continue; continued

co-op – co-operative

Copr., cop.-copyright

Corp. – Corporation

C.P.A. - Certified Public Accountant

cr.-credit; creditor; center cr. memo. - credit memorandum crt. - crate C.S.R. - Certified Shorthand Reporter ctg., ctge. – cartage cu. ft., ft³-cubic foot or feet cust. – customer c.w.o. - cash with order D.A. – District Attorney D.C., d.c., d-c-direct current deld., dld.-delivered dep.-deposit; depot; departs; departure; deponent; deputy dept.-department; deponent; deputy dft.-draft; Dft.-defendant dir.-director dis.-discount; discharge; distance; distant; distribute disc., disct.-discount disch.-discharge; discharged dist. - district; distance; distant; distributed; distribution; distributor div.-dividend; division; divide; divided: divisor DL-day letter (telegraph) dld., deld. – delivered dlvy., dly., dy. – delivery doz., dz. - dozen(s)dwg.-drawing DX, D.X.-distance e.e. - errors excepted E. & O.E. – errors and omissions excepted Ed. D. - Doctor of Education E.D.T., EDT-Eastern daylight time e.o.m.-end of month E.Q.-educational quotient esp., espec. - especially est. - estimate; estimated; estate est., estab-established; establishment exc.-except; excepted; exception exc., esch. - exchange ext.-exterior; extended; extension; external (ly); extinct; extra; extract

FAO-Food and Agriculture Organization (United Nations) FAX-Western Union fac-simile machine center FBI-Federal Bureau of Investigation FCC-Federal Communications Commission FDIC-Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Fed.-Federal; Federated; Federation fifo-first in, first out (accounting) FM., f.m.-frequency modulation (radio) F.O.B., f.o.b.-free on board FPC-Federal Power Commission FR-full-rate (telegrams and cables) FRB-Federal Reserve Board (or Bank) frt., frgt.-freight FT.-Fort; ft.-foot; feet; fortification FTC-Federal Trade Commission FX, F.X.-foreign exchange G.A.-General Agent; general average (ins.) G/A, g.a. – general average (ins.) gal., gall. – gallon(s) gals., -gallons GAW-guaranteed annual wage gds. – goods Gov.-Governor gov., govt. – government G.P.O. – General Post Office gr.-gross; grade; gravity; grain(s) spelled out for weight); gram(s) gu., guar.-guarantee; guaranteed hdbk.-handbook Hon.-Honorable gp, hp., HP-horsepower H.P., h.p.-high pressure; h.p. half pay hr.-hour(s)-hrs., hours hund., C-hundred; c.-cwt. hundredweight IBA-Investment Bankers Association

ICC, I.C.C.-Interstate Commerce Commission ILO, I.L.O.-International Labor Organization (United Nations) in., "-inch(es); in.-income I.Q.-intelligence quotient inc., incor., incorp. - incorporated incl.-including; inclusive ins.-inches; insurance; inspector inv.-invoice; investment; invented; inventor; invention ital. – italic (type) ITO-International Trade Organization J/A, j/a – joint account Jour., J., Jr.-journal Jr. – Junior; journal lb.-libra (pound); £ pound sterling lbs. – pounds L.C.L., LCL-less than carload lots leg. – legal; legislative; legislature lifo-last in, first out (accounting) L.S. -locus sigilli (place of the seal) mag.-magazine; magnet; magnitude (of stars) mat.-maturity (bonds); matinee max. – maximum M.D.-Doctor of Medicine memo-memorandum Messrs., MM. - Messieurs (fr., *Misters*) mfd.-manufactured mfg.-manufacturing mfr.-manufacture, manufacturer mfrs. – manufacturers Mgr. – Manager min.-minute(s); minimum; mineral; mining; minim (drop), in apothecaries' measure; minister mkt., mar. – market mun.-municipal N.A.M., NAM-National Association of Manufacturers natl., nat. – national NATO-North Atlantic Treaty Organization NBC-National Broadcasting Company

N.E.A.-National Education Association

n.e.s.-not elsewhere specified or stated

NL-night letter (telegraph)

NLRB-National Labor Relations Board

no.—number; nos.—numbers

NOMA-National Office Management Association

O/A, o/a - on account

obit. - obituary; obits. - obituaries

O.B/L, ob/l-order bill of lading

oc.-overcharge; ocean

o/c-over-the-counter; overcharge

o.c. - omissions excepted

o.d.-overdraft or overdrawn; outside diameter

o/d - on demand

O.K., OK-correct; O.K.'s-'ing-'d (verb forms) O.K.s or O.K.'s (plural)

oz. – ounce(s); ozs. – ounces

p.-page (pp., pages); past; per; pressure; power; population; pole; post

p.a., per an., per ann.-per annum
 (by the year)

P.A. - Passenger Agent; Press Agent; Purchasing Agent; private account; personal appearance; public-address system; power of attorney

P/A-private account; particular average; power of attorney

pam., pamph.-pamphlet

pat. - patent; patented

Pat. Off. – Patent Office

payt. - payment

PBX – private branch exchange (telephone)

pc.-piece; pcs.-pieces

pc., pct. %-per cent; p.c.-post card

pcl. – parcel

pd. – paid

pf., pfd., pref. - preferred (securities)
pkg. - package(s); pkgs. - packages

pkt. – packet pkwy. – parkway p.m. - post meridiem (after noon) P.M., PM. – postmaster p.o. - post office; postal order; petty officer (Navy) P.O.D. – Post Office Department; p.o.d. - pay on delivery (express) pp. – pages; pp., ppd. – prepaid p.p.-parcel post; postage paid, or postpaid p.p.i. - parcel post, insured prem.-premium prod. – product; produce; produced pro tem. - pro tempore (temporarily) P.S., PS. – post scriptum (postscript) P.S.T., PST-Pacific standard time P.T.A., PTA, P-TA-Parent-Teacher Association ptg. - printing ptr.-printer PX-Post Exchange (military) qt., qty.-quantity qt., qu. – quart qu., ques. - question rcd., recd. - received rct - receipt; rec. - receipt; recipe R.E. – real estate rec. - record; recorded; recorder; recording; receipt rep. - repeat; repair; rep., rept. - report req. - required; requisition res. - research; reserve; residence; resides; resigned; resort; resulution retd.-returned R.F.D. – rural free delivery; or R.R. -rural route ROTC-Reserve Officers' Training Corps r.p.m., rpm, r/m-revolutions per minute R.R., RR.-railroad Ry.-railway R.S.V.P., r.s.v.p.-Répondez, s'il vous plaît (Reply, if you please) (S), /S/-signed (before a copied signature) SEATO-Southeast Asia Collective Defense Treaty Organization

SEC-Securities and Exchange Commission Sec., Secy. – Secretary serv. - service sh.tn.-short ton sld. - sailed; sealed; sold s.o. - seller's option; shipping order; special order Soc., soc. – society SOS-distress signal(radiotelegraph) sq. - square, as sq. ft. (also expressed, ft²); sequence Sq.-Square (a block or street); Squadron SS., ss. - scilicet (namely, to wit) S.S., SS., S/S-steamship SSA-Social Security Administration stk.-stock Stk.Ex., St.Ex.-Stock Exchange Stk.Mkt.-Stock market supp., suppl. - supplement Supt., supt. - superintendent synd. - syndicate syst., sys. – system TB, t.b.-tubercle bacillus (tuberculosis) T.B., T/B, t.b. – trial balance tech. - technical(ly); technology tel-telephone tel., teleg., tg. – telegram; telegraph ter. - terrace; territory tr. - trust; trustee; transfer; transit; transpose; translated; translation; translator; treasurer; transactions trans., tr. - transactions; transferred; transpose; transportation; translated; translation; translator transf., transfd., tr.-transferred transl.,tr. - translated;translation(s) transp., tr.-transportation treas., tr. - treasurer; treasury TV-television; terminal velocity TVA-Tennessee Valley Authority TWX-teletypewriter exchange U.N., UN-United Nations UNESCO-United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

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USES-United States Employment Service

univ. - university; universal(ly) unl. - unlimited; unlisted (securities) Vice-Pres., V.P. - Vice-President VIP - very important person; (VIPsplural) vs., v. - versus (against)

v.v. – vice versa

W.B., WB, W/B-waybill

WB., w.b.-westbound

whf. – wharf

whs.-warehouse; whs. rec., w.r., W.R.-warehouse receipt(s) whsle. - wholesale

w.i., wi-when insured (securities)

- WHO-World Health Organization (United Nations)
- WUX-Western Union teleprinter center; the fac-simile machine center is coded FAX

yd., y. - yard; yds. - yards

- Y.M.C.A. Young Men's Christian Association
- Y.W.C.A. Young Women's Christian Association

yr., y.-year; yrs.-years



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SHEAFFER'S

Weights and Measures

There are two systems of weights and measures in use in the United States—the metric system and the English system. The former is the international system and is accepted as standard in all scientific work.

The following tables give both the English and metric systems of measurement.

LINEAR MEASURE - UNITED STATES

Name	Abbreviation	Common Equiv.	Metric Equiv.
1 inch	in. or "	1,000 mils	2.54 centimeters
1 foot	ft. or '	12 inches	30.48 centimeters, or 0.3048 meters
1 yard	yd.	3 feet (36 in.)	0.9144 meters
1 rod or 1 pole	rd. p.	$5\frac{1}{2}$ yards (16 $\frac{1}{2}$ ft.) (same)	5.0292 meters
1 furlong	fur.	40 rods, or $\frac{1}{8}$ mile (220 yds.)	201.168 meters
1 mile	mi.	8 furlongs, or 320 rods (1760 yds., 5,280 ft.)	1609.3 meters, or 1.6093 kilometers
1 league	• • •	3 miles	4.828 kilometers

LINEAR MEASURE - METRIC SYSTEM

Name	Abbreviation	Metric Equiv.	Common Equiv.
1 millimeter	mm	1/1000 m	0.03937 inches
1 centimeter	cm	1/100 m ·	0.3937 inches
1 decimeter	dm	1/10 m	3.937 inches
1 METER	m	••••	39.37 inches (3.2808 ft.)
1 dekameter*	' dkm	10 m	393.7 inches (32.8083 ft.)
1 hectometer	hm	100 m	328 ft., and 1 in. (109.36 yds.)
1 kilometer	km	/1,000 m	3280.833 feet (0.62137 mi.)
1 myriameter	· mym_/	10,000 m or 10 km	6.2137 miles
*also spe	elled decameter		

Square Measure – United States

Name	Abbreviation	Common Equiv.	Metric Equiv.	
1 square inch	sq. in.	•••••	6.4516 sq. centimeters	
1 square foot	sq. ft.	144 square inches	929.034 sq. centimeters	
		or	0.0929 sq. meters	
1 square yard	sq. yd.	9 square feet	0.8361 sq. meters	
•		(1,296 sq. in.)		
1 square rod	sq.rd.	30¼ square yards	25.2930 sq. meters	
		(272¼ sq. ft.)		
1 acre	А.	160 square rods	40.4687 ares, or	
		(43,560 sq. ft.)	0.4047 hectares	
1 square mile, or	sq.mi.	640 acres	258.9998 hectares, or	
1 section	sec.	(same)	2.5900 sq. kilometers	
1 township	T. or Tp.	36 square miles	9324.0 hectares	

Square Measure-Metric System

Name	Abbreviation	Metric Equiv.	Common Equiv.
1 square centimeter	cm^2	1/10000 square meter	
1 centare*	ca	1 square meter	1550 sq. in.
1 ARE	а	100 square meters	119.6 sq. yd.
1 hectare**	ha	10,000 square meters	2.4710 acres
1 square kilometer	km^2	1,000,000 sq. meters	247.104 acres or
			0.3861 square mile
1 myriare	mya	10 square kilometers	3.861 square miles

10 square kilometers 3.861 square miles *also spelled centiare or centar

**also spelled hectar

CAPACITY-UNITED STATES (Liquid Measure)

Name	Abbreviation .	Common Equiv.	Metric Equiv.
1 gill	gi.	32 fluid grams; 4 fluid	0.1183 liter
		ounces; or 7.219 cu. in.	
1 pint	pt.	4 gills, or 28.875 cu. in.	0.4732 liter
1 quart	qt.	2 pints, or 57.75 cu. in.	0.9463 liter
1 gallon	gal.	4 quarts, or 231 cu. in.	3.7853 liters
1 barrel	bbl.	31 ¹ / ₂ gallons (32 gals. in some states; 42 gals. for oil)	119.238 liters
1 hogshead	hhd.	2 barrels (63 gals.)	238.476 liters
		(Dry Measure)	
1 pint	pt.	$\frac{1}{2}$ quart, or 33.60 cu. in.	0.5506 liter
1 quart	qt.	2 pints, or 67.30 cu. in.	1.1012 liters
1 peck	pk.	8 quarts, or 537.605 cu. in.	8.8096 liters
1 bushel	bu.	4 pecks, or 2150.42 cu. in.	35.2383 liters
1 barrel	bbl.	105 dry quarts, or 7056 cu. in.	115.6260 liters

CAPACITY-METRIC SYSTEM

Name Al	breviat	ion Metric Equ	iv. Dry Measure	Liquid Measure
1 milliliter	ml		0.0610 cu. in.	0.2705 fluid dram
1 centiliter	cl	10 milliliters	0.61025 cu. in.	0.3381 fluid ounce
1 deciliter	dl	10 centiliters	6.1025 cu. in.	0.8454 gill
1 LITER	1	10 deciliters	0.9081 qt.	1.0567 quarts
1 dekaliter*	dkl	10 liters	1.1351 pecks	2.64178 gallons
1 hectoliter	hl	10 dekaliters	2.8378 bushels	26.4178 gallons
1 kiloliter	kl	1 stere	1.308 cubic yards	264.178 gallons
1 myrialiter	myl	10 kiloliters	13.80 cubic yds.	2641.78 gallons
*also spelle	d decila	iter		-

Weight-United States (Avoirdupois)

	Abbreviation	Common Equiv.	Metric Equiv.
1 grain	(Spelled out)	1/7000 pound	0.0648 grams
1 dram	dr.	27.34375 grains	1.771854 grams
1 ounce	oz.	16 drams (437.5 grains)	28.3495 grams
1 pound	lb.	16 ounces (7000 grains)	453.5924 grams
1 hundredweight	cwt.	100 pounds, or 4 quarters	45.3592 kilograms
1 short ton	sh.tn.	2,000 pounds (U.S. ton)	0.9072 metric ton
1 long ton, or	l.tn. or	2,240 pounds (Br. ton)	1.0160 metric tons
gross ton	gr.tn.	- , ,	,
1 metric ton	t or M.T.	2,204.62 pounds	1,000 kilograms
1 freight ton	frt.tn.	40 cubic feet of freight	,
		snace	

space

MISCELLANEOUS UNITS

1 load (for measuring dirt removed)1 cubic yard
1 perch (measure for stone)
1 square (of roof or floor materials)100 square feet
1 linear perch1 rod $(5\frac{1}{2} \text{ yards})$
1 land perch1 square rod
1 rood
1 hand (for measuring the height of horses)4 inches
1 pace $\dots \dots 2^{\frac{1}{2}}$ feet
1 palm 3 or 4 inches
1 line (for describing the size of buttons) $1/40$ inch
1 mil (for the diameter of wires)1/1000 inch; 0.0254 millimeter
1 quarter
28 pounds (Eng.)
1 stone14 pounds
1 tierce
Note: No periods are used after metric abbreviations.

wil



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To Shift or Not to Shift? That is the Question *or*

Capitalization Simplified

Certain uses of capitals are conventions followed by everyone, as the capitalizing of the initial letter of the first word of a sentence or a proper name. Business, however, also sanctions the use of capitals for purposes of emphasis and for clarifying ideas. Sometimes failure to capitalize may result in a change of meaning. For instance, suppose you wish to indicate that you like porcelain ware and write, "I like China." When spelled with an initial capital, this word refers to the country and not to porcelain ware. Because instances of such distinctions are frequent, it is important for the secretary or typist to be careful to observe the general rules of capitalization set forth below. One word of caution — remember to be consistent when capitalizing; that is, don't capitalize a word at one time and fail to capitalize it later when it is being used in the same construction.

Use a capital as the initial letter of the first word of:

- A sentence or an expression that stands for a sentence. Send for this booklet today. Welcome !
- 2. A sentence or phrase following a colon when the subject matter is formal in nature.

The following rule must be strictly enforced by all instructors: No smoking is permitted in the auditorium at any time.

3. An independent sentence within a sentence.

Are you afraid to ask yourself the question, What is the meaning of life? 4. Direct quotations.

Mr. Elliott said, "There is no time to lose."

After hesitating a moment, Mr. Frank said: "Our legislators must see to it that the budget is cut at once; otherwise, we shall be unable to halt the rising tide of inflation."

5. The salutation, and all nouns in the salutation.

Dear Sir:	My dear Madam
Gentlemen:	To all Chairmen:

6. The complimentary close.

Cordially yours,

Very sincerely yours,

7. The statement following *Whereas* or *Resolved* in formal resolutions. Whereas, It is necessary for the welfare . . .

Resolved, That this organization shall go on record ...

8. Each item in an outline.

What Letters of Inquiry Should Contain

I. A clear statement of the information desired or of the problem involved.

A. What is wanted

B. Who wants it

C. Why it is wanted

9. Lines of poetry.

Break, break, break

On thy cold grey stones, O Sea!

. And I would that my tongue could utter

The thoughts that arise in me.

Names of specific persons, places or things.

These names are usually capitalized. Very often, however, they contain elements that may be used in a general sense. When used as general designations, such common-noun elements are not capitalized. For example:

Specific Names	General Designations
(Use Capitals)	(Use Small Letters)
New York Athletic Club	an athletic club for young men who
Institute of Foreign Trade	an institute for developing foreign trade is
	to be formed on
The Foreign Trade Society	a trade society
the National Treasury	a national park is needed
the Queen of England	It is not easy to be a queen.

Shortened Names

It is frequently the practice in business to use shortened forms of names after the full name has been introduced in the text. When so used, common-noun elements are capitalized.

... the Sheaffer Pen Company ... the Company has the City Council ... the Council will ...

Trade Names and Commercial Products

Trade-mark names are capitalized unless they have become so common as to represent a class or type. In the following examples, note that the word following a trade-mark name is not capitalized unless the entire expression is used as a trade term.

Palmolive soap. Gold Medal flour Du Pont House Paint (trade term)

Here are some trade names used as common nouns or adjectives.

aspirin

mimeograph

City and State Names

Capitalize the word *city* only when it is part of the corporate name of the city.

Kansas City

Jersey City

the city of Milwaukee

Capitalize the nicknames of cities and states.

the Windy City the Lone Star State

Capitalize the word *state* when it follows the name of the state or when it is used in place of the name of the state.

He is going to a college in New York State.

Remember, your State tax is due on the fifteenth of this month. The state of Maine holds its elections early.

Personal Names and Titles

A title of office, honor, or respect should be capitalized when it precedes the name, but usually is not capitalized when it follows the name.

President Buell G. Gallagher

Dr. Buell G. Gallagher, president of the City College of the College of the City of New York

Titles of high government officials are usually capitalized, whether they precede or follow the name.

> President Dwight D. Eisenhower Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States

In the address of a letter, all titles should be capitalized, regardless of whether they precede or follow the name.

Mr. Arthur Cummins, Treasurer The Pure Glass Company 800 N. Michigan Avenue Chicago 11, Illinois

Days of the Week, Months, Holidays, Seasons

Capitalize the names of the days of the week, months, holidays, and religious holidays.

This year Memorial Day, May 30, falls on a Thursday. The names of the seasons are not capitalized unless they are personified. ... and Spring entered with her robe of green ...

The Points of the Compass

When these refer to definite sections of the country or are used with other names, they are capitalized; otherwise they are not.

The people of the South are friendly.

Industry on the West Coast is booming.

Travel west for ten minutes and you will see the building. My house is directly south of his.

Punctuation Involving Numbers

A compound adjective that contains a number and occurs before a noun is hyphenated.

There was a 20-minute delay at Chicago.

When one number follows another, use a comma between them.

During 1957, 623 young men will be admitted to the school.

When two numbers form one item, the shorter number should be spelled out; the longer number should be expressed in figures.

four 100-pound weights 300 twelve-inch carriages

The hyphen is used to indicate the missing numbers in a sequence, except when the numbers are preceded by the word "from."

Solve problems 8-15.

Children from 7 to 12 years of age will be admitted at half price.

Class graduation years and well-known years in history are expressed by two figures preceded by an apostrophe.

the class of '58 the crash of '29

Measures, capacities, weights, distances, etc., consisting of several words, are not separated by commas.

> The room measures 12 feet 3 inches by 8 feet 6 inches. She weighs 118 pounds 5 ounces.

Commas are used to separate thousands from hundreds, millions from thousands, etc., except as indicated in the rule below.

\$356,751,982 164,000 8,392,156,875

Commas are omitted in writing serial numbers, policy numbers, telephone numbers, page numbers, and decimals.

Policy No. 6789561957page 134525.3333Oregon 3-77001683 Bel

25.3333 1683 Bell Boulevard

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